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The Negro Farmer and Messenger

Published Bi-Weekly in the Interest of the Home, Farm and Garden; especially devoted to the Interest of Negro Land Owners and Tenant Farmers

and Those Who Employ Negro Labor. The Only Negro Farm Newspaper in the World to be Circulated Among 2,000,000 Black Farmers.

Vol. 3 TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, ALA., NOVEMBER 18, 1916 No. 23

How to Keep Our Boys Interested in Farm Life

By F. H. CARDOZO, Director of Agriculture, Florida State College, Tallahassee, Florida

The editor has given me a big job, when he asks for pointers in holding our Negro boys to the farm home, and make them interested in it, instead of being fooled up to go to the cities, whether North or South.

But I am going to lay out a little program here, and see if this problem can't be analyzed and made to be of practical value to those settled farmers who have children, that are now giving them considerable concern.

1—You know, readers, that there are farmers who treat their boys and girls like they were hired hands, not share partners, as they are. I know a prominent farmer who has more children than he can take care of properly, owns 800 acres of land, has an auto for private use, a private telephone coming a long distance, etc., and absolutely refuses to send the larger children of school age to even the county "free" school. We are expecting "runaways" any minute, because of his grinding down process, in forcing all alike to labor like their ancestors did in slavery, and not a single beautiful thing to welcome them on their return to the humble six-room cottage.

2—Boys and girls, especially nearing 15 and 19, etc., have their own minds in some things. Of course, we must firmly discourage lawlessness, but study this "bent," this "turn of mind," and carefully aid them to develop their "taste" for poultry raising; their "liking for fine horses; or a "desire" for riding a billy goat of his own; or her "determination" to excel in making foot mats, rag rugs, etc.; or the wife's "wish" to have her own Jersey cow; or a boy's "eagerness" to experiment in flowers, corn growing, or flying machines; even the "longing" of the baby for a calf of his own. Only the wise farmer is going to do this. The selfish, stingy, thoughtless farmer will never do it. The Bible says, "Fret not thyself because of the ungodly," and let me tell you, reader, there are a whole lot of ungodly farmers.

Only now and then, do we see one who "uses" his own children in an educational way, as well as in a strictly productive way.

3—We next suggest that you adopt the "union" scale of hours for working on the farm. This thing of working from "can't to can't," or from sunrise to sunset, will stop some day. At least, our more progressive farmers will find out, that starting to work before 5:00 a. m., and stopping later than 6:00 p. m., will not conserve the strength of either the family or their livestock. I admit this a new doctrine, one that will arouse the ire of many, but the next generation of farmers will do this very thing just the same when all the older complainers have retired to their reward. Young people should have plenty of sleep. Don't rob Peter to pay Paul.

4—Plenty to eat at all times will keep the boys on the farm, contented. All the baked 'taters, hog and goat meat, home-raised syrup, plenty of peaches and other fruits, butter and milk, eggs and fowl; if possible give each boy a gun for hunting, and the girls all the material they want for crocheting and embroidery work.

5—On Sundays, holidays, on rainy or cold days, and in the evenings, the boys and girls, ought to be encouraged to organize and keep together a club, to sing Plantation Melodies. Don't waste time in rag-time songs or even some other songs. Stick to the melodies, and you will build up in your home, not only a deep reverence for religious things, and the beautiful song sentiment, but love for the farm home and for parents. If a change is temporarily desired. the concert guitar, or other favored musical instrument, makes a most delightful accompaniment for any sort of program that may be rendered.

6—As far as you are financially able, subscribe to two good farm papers, one of them the NEGRO FARMER, published at Tuskegee, a newspaper, and necessary farm books. Read the Bulletins sent you and encourage the boys to do the same. There are special bulletins for boys and girls, if you ask for them. Write to the Editor, or any one you know can help you, for just exactly the kind of information you want. Don't hesitate. That is what we are for. All this will interest your children and make them feel that the farm calls for every particle of brain power they possess, and keep them from wanting to be everything under the sun, but a good farmer. Pictures of farm scenes should be saved and posted. Encourage the reading of books and magazines, etc., providing it is not trashy reading.

7—**Clothing will have to be bought now and then**—Where the farmer has been wise to give his children their own pig or colt, their own little patch of melons or berries, etc., he will find that the child will do extra things for his beast or crop, and that he will make a success of it, that he will sell it at profit, and that the proceeds will buy what the child wishes or craves for, and that he is the richer farmer for following that particular method. You won't gain anything by refusing an ambitious boy or girl such simple bequest to help himself, and thus help you.

8—**Make the residence attractive.** There are too many good farmers, having good-looking houses, with not a bit of paint outside. Children are proud of their country home, if it looks neat, white with paint, with roses climbing on the front porch, and honeysuckles clinging to an arbor, and a crape myrtle blooming near the chimney.

9—**Visit the nearby town or city, but don't let it fool you.** If you are able to own an automobile for travel, instead of horse and buggy, allow the boys to learn to run it, without tearing it up, and give them that pride of ownership and worth that such an article provides. But a good horse and buggy, these days cost money too, and if they can drive a horse or a pair of horses they raised themselves, its beats the auto many times. Good home training will assert itself, if temptations of a bad sort assail the farm boy or girl, who is visiting the town or city. When they return to the farm home, it should be with new ambitions, aspirations, desires to make our country home even more beautiful and happy place to live in. But what a few take the hint!

10—**Have many things to sell.** Have the boys help you watch the market. Don't sell for low prices. Get the worth of your labor. Don't cut the shade trees carelessly. Don't waste time with a sorry preacher in your rural church. Tell the preacher you won't have him anymore, if he preaches Hell and the Grave all the time, instead of "How to Live," "Improving the Soil and the Church," "Flowers and Religion," etc., etc.

Organize candy pulling frolics, church socials, or other church activities that don't always call for a collection. This means the rural school teacher should be called in and made leader, in wise, and assume the responsibility of assisting in making farm life more interesting for our boys and girls.

There are many other things that parents can do to hold their boys to the farm, and keep them interested. But I think I have already used all the space that can be spared. You know your farm conditions best, but a little more personal practical interest in your heirs, and trying to cultivate happiness with them, in any little way you think best, will solve this problem of your boys going away, not to return.

PROF. CARVER'S EXPERIMENT WITH SWEET POTATOES

Those who protest that we must have commercial fertilizer to produce the best sweet potatoes, need only to write to Prof. G. W. Carver, Director of Experiment Station, Tuskegee Institute, Alabama, and he will tell you how he produced potatoes, this year, weighing eight pounds without one pound of commercial fertilizer. From one-tenth of an acre he gathered forty bushels—the equivalent of four hundred bushels to the acre. At the price which he received per bushel, an acre in sweet potatoes would have brought three hundred dollars. He gathered potatoes weighing eight pounds, and at least one 26 inches long.—EDITOR.

"ALABAMA MUST FEED HERSELF"

BY T. M. CAMPBELL, District Agent

Tuskegee Institute, Ala.,
November 9, 1916.

To the Keepers of the Soil:

A county fair offers at least three fundamental advantages, namely, pleasure, education and profit. The great crowds that attend these fairs invariably get pleasure, those who exhibit acquire education, and the fortunate few who win prizes realize pleasure, education and profit. The world takes off its hat to a prize winner, but there is a whole lot of credit due the fellow who tries, loses and then takes the pains to inquire, just why he lost.

As a future possibility, we are infinitely more concerned with the losers than we are the winners because the former are in the majority. With this object in view, we are anxious that every individual who installed produce at the Macon County Fair this year and did not receive a prize, should know why.

For the lack of space we can't go into details just here, but would venture to say, that most of the faults are embodied in the following:

Poor selection of exhibits at home and poor arrangement of same at the Fair grounds, however, we shall be glad to correspond further with any exhibitor regarding his exhibit. To successfully install an exhibit requires artistic ability and the more often the act is performed the more perfect one becomes in the art; therefore, those exhibitors who did not win prizes of money this year undoubtedly received something far more lasting, namely; **information,** which we are sure will be put into practice at the next County Fair, 1917, thereby raising the standard of agricultural display in the county.

KOWALIGA COMMUNITY FAIR

BY MISS M. E. MORRIS

The annual Kowaliga community fair was held at Kowaliga School, November 9, 1916. The attendance showed a true spirit of co-operation with such a movement, there being some four or five hundred people present.

The exhibition of vegetables was excellent in quality and that of canned fruit was also good. The boll weevil having played havoc with the cotton crop in this section, few cotton exhibits were made. The display of live-stock contained some of the best. The fancy work exhibited was especially good.

We were very fortunate to have with us as speaker for this occasion Mr. Vernon W. Barnett, editor and manager of the NEGRO FARMER AND MESSENGER, from Tuskegee Institute, who, in his excellent address, made a strong appeal for support in educational work and emphasized the need of practical farming in this section

where the boll weevil has made his appearance.

Mr. C. W. Greene, Farm Demonstrator for Macon County, Alabama, gave a most interesting address on Agriculture in this section, pointing out to the farmers the prospects of good crops through correct cultivation.

Mr. Frank Manly, formerly located with the Dixie Company at Benson, Alabama, made some especially interesting and helpful remarks regarding the outlook for profitable crops in this section next year, those with which the boll weevil would not interfere. He urged upon the patrons the necessity of placing their children in school, giving them the advantage of the opportunities for education it afforded them while they were available.

The enthusiasm manifested was "real" and we are looking forward to good results from these annual meetings.

The music was furnished by an eight-piece orchestra from Montgomery.

AN INTERESTING LETTER

By W. D. MARSH, Teacher in Randolph County

I am an ex-student of the Tuskegee Institute and spent six months in the A Middle Class of that institution. I have been teaching in this county for 17 years, and own 77 acres of land, raise my mules, hogs, cattle, etc. I make each year, on my farm, from six to eight bales of cotton with plenty of corn, fruit, vegetables, etc. My home contains five rooms and a 40-foot hall, 7 feet wide, ceiled and painted inside and out. I also have good barn, good tenant houses, farm implements of the best type, and read the best farm papers and teachers' journals. Ever since leaving school, I have earnestly striven to carry out the Tuskegee idea as advocated by the late Dr. Booker T. Washington.

THREE REASONS WHY COUNTY AGENTS AND EXTENSION WORKERS CANNOT DO THEIR BEST WORK FOR FARMERS

First: The greater number of farmers among our people are lacking in community pride; many of them will enter their year's operation without consulting their experienced neighbors, their good wives, and their county agent.

Too many farmers will obligate themselves and families for more than they have the capacity to produce on their farms, in the hope of having good luck in the end. They like to do their business in secret; so much so that they will not keep a record of their accounts.

The man who is able to foretell the capacity of his farm, will be able to tell what he should make and what he should clear, under favorable conditions, even before he plants his crops. Dr. Booker T. Washington said that a hog will make a living if you give him his freedom.

The farmer should know before he enters his operations for the year, the number of bushels, gallons and bales of farm products his farm is capable of yielding as well as the necessary expense of his family. He should know the capacity of his labor and stock.

Second: Negroes will not organize and meet as a community. The agents have the task of meeting them one by one and the sorry farmer knows so much that in some cases the agent must excuse himself from the argument and leave before helping the fellow to correct his mistake.

Third: The poor farmer and manager doubts every man's ability but his own. He is blind to the fact that the county and extension agents are bringing to them methods from the government and agricultural colleges that will give to them larger yields and better living. Safe farming and co-operation should be the motto of each farmer for the year 1917. The farmer should open his ears to better methods and not be satisfied with only a living from his farm. He should save some money each year.

AN EXHIBITOR AT THE MACON COUNTY FAIR

By JUANITA H. V. CONYERS, Agricultural Insrtuctor, Tuskegee Institute, Alabama

I was one of the fortunate ones to assist Miss N. Juanita Coleman in getting up the general exhibits from the rural districts and the people surrounding the communities of Tuskegee.

An interesting feature about the fair and the rural exhibits was a Mrs. Daisy Simpson, of Notasulga, Alabama, who had never exhibited at a fair before. I helped her put her exhibit together, consisting of preserves, marmalades, jellies, canned goods; also her sewing done by her and her 14-year-old daughter.

On returning to the fair after the judges had made their rounds I found that she had won the following prizes:

"Best Canned Peaches."
"Best Marmalade."
"Best Pickles."
"Best Crab-Apple Jelly."

Also the prize on the "Daintiest Baby Dress." Her daughter, aged 14, won the prize on child's sewing.

It is wonderful to see that this rural lady could contribute so much to the Macon County Fair. Others should follow in her footsteps towards making the fair more successful each year.

Talking with her at the close of the fair, she said: "I was not sure of winning the first prizes; I brought my work to let the people see that, with the present conditions, we are making our farm life a happy one, and next year at the fair I hope to do better."

CONFERENCE NOTES

A. T. Tinsley of Loachapoka, Lee County, Alabama, R. F. D. 1, Box 86, has been in Lee County five years and has bought eighty acres of land and kept up his payments as they became due. In order to do this he raises his foodstuff at home. He made this year:

300 bushels of corn.
90 bushels of potatoes.
200 gallons of syrup.
3,000 bundles of fodder.
7 stacks of hay.
35 bushels of peas.
7 bushels of ground peas.
5 bales of cotton.

He will kill 1,200 pounds of meat this winter. He has eleven head of cattle, milks five cows. He runs a syrup mill for the public on his place. He has sold $60.00 worth of hogs, has eight fine shoats in his pasture for sale, and has sold $25.00 worth of chickens and eggs.

Mr. Tinsley has bought nothing on credit this year. He says if the farmer will raise his food supplies at home and a few bales of cotton, he can live in spite of the boll weevil and pay for land, as he is doing. He is planning to attend the Negro Conference, January 17, 1917. He is a reader of the NEGRO FARMER AND MESSENGER.

Mr. M. Marable of Malone, R. F. D. 1, Randolph County, Alabama, made four bales of cotton this year with one plow. Fifty gallons of syrup. He will have meat sufficient to do his family another year. Since the last annual Negro Conference he has succeeded in painting his house and barn. Although he is seventy-six years of age, he is a "live wire" in his community.

Mr. W. L. Pierson of Wedowee, Alabama, Randolph County, R. F. D. 1, made four bales of cotton this year to the plow and three hundred bushels of corn. He sold $24.00 worth of pigs, $72.00 worth of cattle. Mr. Pierson has eight head of cattle, three of which are milk cows, and seven head of hogs.

Mrs. W. L. Pierson has sold this year $12.00 worth of chickens and eggs. Mr. Pierson has two mules and a decent bank account. He is a reader of THE NEGRO FARMER AND MESSENGER.

J. P. Heard of Cragford, R. F. D. 2, Randolph County, Alabama, by breaking his land early in the fall and winter, made seven bales of cotton this year and seventy-five bushels of potatoes. He will make corn enough for his family another year. Sold this year $35.00 worth of corn, $15.00 worth of syrup and $12.00 worth of pigs during the summer. He has $26.00 worth of pigs on hand for sale now. Mr. Heard believes in the Conference idea.

J. A. Heard of Cragford, R. F. D. 2, Randolph County, Alabama, son of J. P. Heard, lives with his father and runs a farm himself. He made three bales of cotton, one hundred bushels of corn, ten gallons of syrup. He owns a large hog and a good mule. He will clear one bale of cotton this year. Mr. Heard, Jr., is planning to attend the short course at Tuskegee Institute in January, 1917. What this young man has done and is doing, other young men can do.

Mr. J. L. Echols of Auburn, Lee County, Alabama, R. F. D. 1, who is

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President of the School Trustee Board of Mt. Vernon school, made this year four hundred forty bushels of corn, 70 bushels of potatoes, 4,000 bundles of fodder, 500 bales of hay, 150 gallons of syrup. He has sixteen head of hogs, eleven head of cows and a fine stallion from which he has collected $160 this year. Mr. Echols made ten bales of cotton with three mules.

Mr. J. H. Hill of Auburn, Lee County, Alabama, R. F. D. 1, Box 7, has two mules and has made enough corn to make another year's crop. He made eighty-five gallons of syrup, four and one-half bales of cotton with two plows. He has four head of cows, two of them giving milk. He will kill 800 pounds of meat. Mr. Hill is a trustee of Mt. Vernon school and the treasurer of the Trustee Board. He is not planning to go to New Jersey, but is "fertilizing the spot where he is," and is planning to make a better crop next year.

WHY SOME FARMERS MAKE MONEY

By O. R. Johnson, University of Missouri, Johnson County (Mo.)

It is often asked why one farmer is more successful than another when both seem to have equal opportunity for success. A study of the Johnson County, Missouri, management survey region with this point in mind has indicated that the reasons for a difference in the degree of success attained by the different farms lie in the following points.

The first is a good sized business. A man must have enough land so that he can use his time and the time of his work stock and tools with the greatest efficiency. This means not less than 120 acres and not more than 500 acres for general Missouri conditions, the preferable size being between 200 and 400 acres.

The proper amount and distribution of capital. The investment should not vary widely from the average of the region, either in investment per acre or in the distribution of investment.

A farming system which furnishes a maximum of labor from which returns are realized either directly or indirectly, and which includes a minimum of labor from which no return is realized. Each workman on a farm should have provided for him not less than 160 days of productive labor, and each horse should have not less than 50 days of productive labor. Many farms run much below these figures.

The second essential is a business of high quality. The first point in this connection is crop yields. Yields should run from average to about one-fifth above the average for the region. The man who falls below the average in yields has an up-hill job.

Not only must crop yields be good, but on farms where some feeding is done the feeding operations must be efficient. All classes of live stock should return at least $140 for every $100 worth of feed consumed, if good wages are to be realized for a man's time. Some of the best feeders get much more than this. Some classes of stock can pay a profit by returning less than this, but in general this rate of return will give good feed consumed.

A reasonable degree of diversity is also necessary for successfully operating a farm. Unless special or unusual conditions justify a highly specialized type of farming, a farm should have several sources of income to depend on. The cotton farmers of the South at the time the boll weevil appeared, serve as a good illustration of the danger of having only one source of income. A man who is depending entirely on the sale of hogs is in bad shape if the cholera gets his hogs one year, but if a man has several sources he can lose one or perhaps two sources and still have some income. The most successful farms in the region studied had from three to seven or eight sources, probably three to six sources will give the best results.

PARENTS' AND JUVENILE CLUB WORK

An illustration of the great importance of the attitude of parents toward the work of members of the boys' agricultural clubs which have been organized throughout the country by the United States Department of Agriculture is found by specialists in co-operative demonstration work in two cases reported from the same State. The incidents are accepted as showing the value of parental sympathy and consideration, particularly in the solution of the problem of keeping the members of the younger generation on the farm.

In one case it was fouund that the boy of the family was helped and encouraged from the time he first joined a corn club. His father permitted the use of one of the best acres on the farm, gave him barnyard manure, and allowed the use of the necessary horses and machinery. The young club member produced more than 100 bushels of corn on his single acre the first year and has been consistently successful since. He has even established a reputation as a breeder of fine seed corn. During the four years of his membership in the corn, pig, and other clubs, he has won more than $400 in prizes, and with his profits, has acquired ownership of seven heads of pure-bred Durock Jersey hogs, six head of well-bred cattle, and a horse. The home is said to be ideal, the father and son being reported as "chummy as school boys." The boy has no thought of taking up life in the city, but is planning a constructive future on the farm.

In the second case the results have been wholly different. The young son of this family joined a Kafir club, but when the crop was gathered the grain was placed in a general farm bin and he received no value from it. The following year he joined a pig club and when his father called attention to the lack of feed, he hired himself to a neighboring farmer to secure funds. The money which he earned was, however, pocketed by his father. Wholly discouraged, the young boy shortly afterwards ran away from home and is now working in a city of a neighboring State.

The incidents have been used by the State demonstration agent of the State in which they occurred as the text from an urgent appeal to all parents to encourage their children in the constructive work they are undertaking in the clubs. One factor which will be helpful, it is pointed out, is permitting the young people to receive the full financial profits of their industry.

RURAL SCHOOLHOUSE BUILDING

By J. A. Steel, Samantha, Alabama

Last December I met Prof. Booker T. Washington, Jr., at Reform, Alabama, and having a strong desire to build a Rosenwald schoolhouse at Samantha, Alabama, I asked him to come to Ebenezer community. This invitation he accepted with delight.

About May 17th, Prof. Washington and Miss Mary E. Mosley, Rural School supervisor, visited this community and secured pledges for the required amount of money. In September an educational rally was conducted by Prof. Washington and Miss Mosley. There was raised in this rally, with credits for some equipments for the new building, 205.00, the patrons giving from one to twenty-five dollars. Mr. Ned Prewitt gave two acres of land and paid the first $25.00 into the school fund. We have yet to raise the remainder of the money necessary for the completion of the building so that it will be ready for school by the first of January, 1917. Miss Mosley has organized a Woman's Club. The object of this club is to raise $50.00 of the $95.00 needed for the building within the next thirty days.

We hope to have Prof. Washington and Miss Mosley come to see us again soon.

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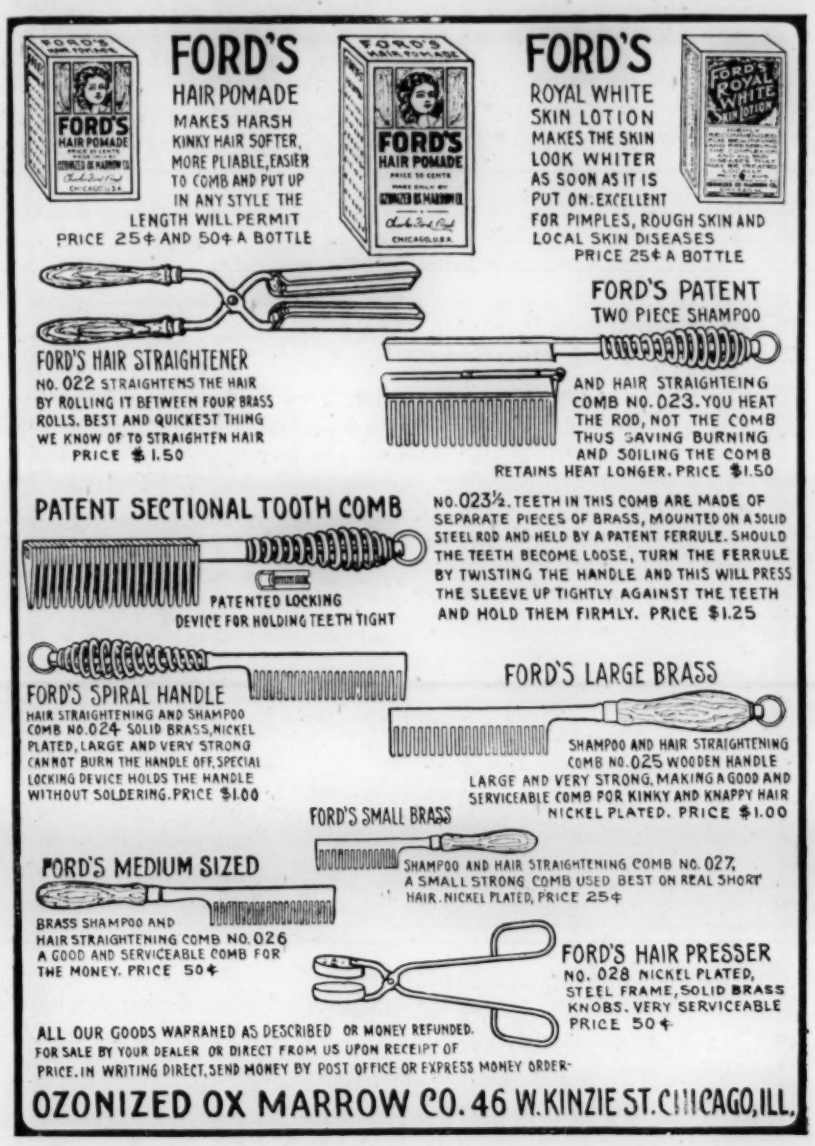
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VERNON W. BARNETT
Editor and Business Manager

Entered as Second-Class Mail Matter, February 4, 1914, at the Post Office at Tuskegee Institute, Alabama, under the Act of March 3, 1879.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE

Per copy	5 cents
Per year, post-paid	$ 1.00
Six months	.50
Three months	.50
Foreign subscription, per year	2.25

HOW TO REMIT

Send money by postal money order, express order, or registered letter. Stamps in good condition are accepted for small amounts.

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SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 1916

THE MACON COUNTY FAIR—A SUCCESS

Any write-up on the Macon County Fair would be incomplete without a foreword of thanks to the President and Directors, who spared no pains in their efforts to make this the greatest and most helpful Fair that has ever been held at Tuskegee. President Drakeford and his assistants were untiring in their efforts to open wide the gate of opportunity to white and black alike, thus giving them a chance to bring to the front an exhibition of their various products and to show the wonderful possibilities of Macon County lands. With this kind of opportunity and encouragement no man can fail to see and appreciate the great profit and pleasure to be found in Southern rural life.

Too much cannot be said in a creditable way of Mr. T. M. Campbell, District Agent of the United States Department of Agriculture, and his loyal assistants, Miss Juanita Coleman and Mr. C. W. Greene, managers of the Colored Department. Each of them seemed filled with the one noble purpose of giving each feature of the Fair an educational bearing, and of driving home the important lesson that farm life offers the best possible opportunity to our people today.

AGRICULTURAL EXHIBITS

With the fine specimens of Agricultural products, there was no question as to whether or not we can live in the face of the weevil. Among the farm products exhibited, were corn, peas, potatoes, sugar cane, velvet beans, navy beans, oats, fodder, pumpkins, peanuts, turnips, cabbage, onions, canned fruits and vegetables, wheat, rye, citron, tomatoes, radish, cured hams, syrup, home-grown rice and cotton. Agricultural prizes to the amount of $111.00 were won by our people. I regret that space will not permit mention of each prize-winner, but those who won from five dollars up were as follows:

Miss Helen McCullough, for the best community exhibit, won first prize of $15.00; Mr. A. G. Chandler won second prize of $10.00; Mr. J. A. Barney, won third prize of $5.00 for community exhibit; Mr. Thomas Howard, for the best, largest and most artistically arranged agricultural exhibit won first prize of $12.50; Mr. Charles A. Greene, Jr., won second prize of $7.50; Mr. William Hunt won third prize of $5.00; Prof. W. M. Welch won the second prize for city school exhibit, $7.50; Mr. A. L. Huggins, for the finest display of raw vegetables, won first prize of $5.00; Mr. Thomas Howard, also won first prize for the best display of velvet beans, $5.00; Miss Inez Edwards won second prize for rural school exhibit, $5.00.

WOMAN'S DEPARTMENT

The Woman's Department under the management of Miss Juanita Coleman, was indeed a success. The exhibits were very beautifully arranged and showed that our women are important factors in the economic uplift of our people.

There were on exhibition canned fruits and vegetables, needle work, dinner cooked from home-grown products by Mrs. Thomas Pugh, of Clintonville community, shuck work, pine-needle work, and almost every variety of community material made into some useful article.

For work of a superior class, various women received prizes to the amount of $53.50.

LIVE-STOCK

The Boy's Pig Club of Macon County made a very fine showing. It may be interesting to our readers to know that a white boy in the town of Tuskegee had on exhibition a Duroc Jersey pig ten months old weighing 450 pounds. As I looked at this beautiful pig, raised by a white boy, I wondered how many of our boys over the State of Alabama are members of Pig Clubs and are raising pigs like this. Under similar treatment, a Duroc Jersey pig will grow just as fast and large for a black boy, and I think I am not mistaken in saying that a black boy is quite as fond of meat as a white boy and is as much in need of money.

For well-developed live-stock our people received prizes to the amount of $110.50.

The Tuskegee Institute had exhibits from its various departments as usual. One of the new features of the Tuskegee Institute exhibit was that from the Extension Department, under the direction of Prof. C. J. Calloway. The exhibit consisted of photograph and plans of rural school buildings, together with data card, showing that one hundred eighty-four rural schoolhouses have been erected through the aid of Mr. Julius Rosenwald, costing $210,000. Of this amount the colored people have raised $94,594.21, the white people have donated $10,325.00; the State contributed $43,231.00, and Mr. Julius Rosenwald $61,949.55.

PROF. G. W. CARVER'S EXHIBIT

Prof. G. W. Carver, Director of Experiment Station, Tuskegee Institute, Alabama, was the center of attraction at the Fair. In his simple manner he showed the results of two weeks experiment with the velvet bean. He had on exhibition velvet bean ink, velvet bean bran, velvet bean meal, velvet bean hulls, flour number 1, flour number 2, granulated velvet beans, chipped velvet beans, coffee made from velvet beans, bean and hull mixture for stock, velvet bean rolls, velvet bean layer cake, peanut and velvet bean candy and 18 dyes made from velvet beans. He also had on exhibition several of the 105 uses of the peanut. He states that the above is only a beginning of the uses of the bean. white men and black men alike were surprised as Prof. Carver poured out his wisdom on the wonderful possibilities of these plants. His policy is that nothing is useful unless it harnesses itself to the affairs of the community in a helpful way. He therefore works out the possibilities of certain land and plants and lets the public know about it.

EFFECTIVE METHOD FOR DESTROYING POULTRY LICE

Means Developed by Bureau of Entomology, U. S. Department of Agriculture

Entomologists of the U. S. Department of Agriculture have demonstrated that all species of lice which infest poultry may be quickly destroyed by the application of a very small quantity of sodium fluorid, according to the annual report of the Chief of the Bureau of Entomology just issued. Entire flocks of poultry were cleared of the parasites in this way and were found to remain free when ordinary precautions were taken against reinfestation by contact with infested fowls.

In connection with this work the entomologists of the Department made the first complete studies of the chicken mite and determined that it depends exclusively upon the fowl for its food and will not develop in any stage on filth or similar substances. In tests of a large series of insecticides it was found that a few thorough applications of crude petroleum to the interior of poultry houses will completely destroy mites.

THE COMMUNITY FAIR IN A ROSENWALD SCHOOLHOUSE

On Friday and Saturday, October 27th and 28th the people at Brownsville 2 community assembled some splendid home-grown horses, mules, hogs and chickens on the grounds about their beautiful school building for the purpose of showing what they could do in the way of growing their own livestock. On the outside of the building were beautiful shade trees, and under these trees were arranged these home-grown animals. Colts one year old, two years old and colts three years old were plentiful. Well groomed brood mares showed that the owners in this community could be classed with the progressive and intelligent farmers. A committee of the men farmers had charge of the livestock on the outside of the building and were delighted when visitors from Tuskegee Institute and other places gave them information concerning their livestock exhibit. This same committee of men also had charge of the exhibits of corn, potatoes, sugar cane, peas, velvet beans, pumpkins, etc., inside of the building. It was very interesting to see how these farmers explained and compared the merits of the different varieties of corn, cotton seed, peas, potatoes, etc. In the same room, but arranged very beautifully on a table were canned fruits and vegetables. A committee of farm women had charge of this exhibit. Canned okra, corn, tomatoes, peaches, beets, peas, etc., were indeed very plentiful. On the walls were arranged exhibits of garments for wearing made by the women and girls. A very interesting program was carried out on each day of this fair. One feature of the program was a spelling match in which everybody joined. The words for this match were selected very largely from names of articles grown and used on the farm. The County Demonstrator, Mr. C. W. Greene and Mr. E. C. Roberts, Director Academic Department, Tuskegee Institute, and Mr. C. J. Calloway, Director Extension Department, were present in one of the conferences and gave helpful suggestions to the people in the community. The two County Supervisors, Misses S. L. Woodall and L. L. Cunningham were also present and gave many helpful suggestions. Miss Higgs, the teacher, and the school trustees together with the committee in charge of the exhibits are to be congratulated on carrying out such an interesting and helpful Community Fair. In spite of the short crops, the people in Brownsville 2 community seem very determined to use their Rosenwald schoolhouse to the very best advantage. They are raising money to extend their school term to seven or eight months. They hold farmers' meetings monthly in the schoolhouse and carry out a program designed especially to help the men, women, boys, and girls to better understand the problems on the farm.

REPORTER.

OFFICE OF INFORMATION, U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

TICK TICK NUMBER 3 .

The cattle tick lives on the outside, but gets its living from the inside.

If the cattle ticks blew as hard as they suck, tick infested cattle would look like balloons.

A tick-infested steer weighing 730 pounds was freed from cattle ticks by dipping. In 2 months, with the same kind of feed, it gained 285 pounds. The owner was then feeding the steer instead of the ticks.

Ticks reduce the value of hides. Hides that have been punctured by ticks are usually graded as No. 4 quality, while the same hides if free from ticks would grade as No. 2. This depreciation averages about $1.25 a hide.

A dairyman in a heavily infested territory dipped his herd of 42 cattle. One week after dipping the cows gave 10 gallons of milk a day more than before. The milk sold for 35 cents a gallon, $3.50 more per day from his herd. He had begun to feed the cows instead of the ticks.

Nine hundred thirty-three counties were under quarantine on July 1, 1906, because of the cattle tick. By September 1, 1916, the use of arsenical dipping baths had cleaned the tick from 396 counties and 31 parts of counties.

The first Federal appropriation for the eradication of tick fever was $82,500 made available July 1, 1906. This appropriation has been increased from time to time, until $632,400 of Federal funds is made available for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1917.

The Velvet Bean a Profitable Crop

By H. S. MURPHY, Director of Agriculture, C. A. and N. University, Langston, Oklahoma

Money grows on vines, even if it "does not grow on trees." One of these vines is the velvet bean, and when we can grow two to four tons of rich feed on an acre, to say nothing of the twenty to twenty-eight bushels of seed, at the same time adding to our soil plant food worth not less than ten dollars to the crop that follows, what else is that but growing money on vines?

1—**Velvet beans can cut down the feed bill for the horses.** Did you ever haul a bale of hay from a store after having paid a dollar cash, or more on credit, for it? Velvet beans at that rate and for that purpose alone would be worth forty to eighty dollars an acre.

2. **Velvet beans can make the milk flow in winter.** Ever notice how the old cow "slows up" in her milk after the grass goes? Plenty of velvet bean hay will make it like summer the year round for the old cow. We know how she cuts down on the meat bill with her milk and butter, don't we?

3. **Velvet beans will fill the smoke house.** Planted in corn, they grow even in sandy soil until the corn sometimes groans beneath the weight of its twenty or thirty feet of vine and wealth of fuzzy beans. Now let's turn the old sow, the gilts and the porkers in to eat corn and beans. This furnishes a good ration and also saves labor. A hog's time is surely worth something here!

"When the frost is on the pumpkin and the fodder's in the shock," those hams will make a tempting dish for our special town trade we ought to work up for such a fine piece of meat. Fed alone, it takes about ten bushels of corn to make one hundred pounds of pork. Fed with velvet beans, it takes less than eight bushels of corn.

4. **Velvet beans will make the hens lay in winter.** Notice how the eggs fall off when the summer food gets scarce? Velvet beans have in them the food values hens enjoy in summer and will help fill the egg basket when they are selling highest for Thanksgiving and Christmas.

5. **Velvet beans starve out troublesome weeds and grass.** They simply take possession of the soil when they get started and these crop pests don't have even standing room.

6. **Velvet beans will enrich our poor soils.** Many of us have bought "soda" to put on the land at a cost of not less than five dollars a bag. Velvet beans will get the same thing from the air for nothing for which we pay our hard-earned dollars when we buy soda. They will store it in the soil where it is needed, not in some fertilizer warehouse, from which it will never come without payment of a high price. Besides, velvet beans will leave lots of stubble and leaves on the land to be plowed in to enrich the soil even more.

Let us take out our pencils, sit down and figure out the profits we can get from velvet beans, then make up our minds never to plant a crop of corn unless we load the middles with velvet beans, especially if we live near the Gulf Coast or in Florida. But don't forget that we are good for a profitable crop as far north as Tennessee. In due season we shall reap, if we faint not, a goodly load for our pocketbooks.

THE RURAL SCHOOL TERM

(Talk Eleven)

By J. L. MCBRIEN, School Extension Agent, U. S. Bureau of Education, Department of the Interior

School attendance is of first consideration in a discussion of the rural school term. According to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction of Louisiana, the Honorable T. H. Harris, a rural school term of six months with an average daily attendance of 100 per cent is a longer and a better and a cheaper school term than a nine-months term with an average daily attendance of only 66 2-3 per cent. The United States Commissioner of Education agrees with the premise laid down by Superintendent Harris. Every agency should be used to improve rural school attendance before taxpayers are asked to bear the burden of increased taxation for a longer school term wherever poor attendance is tolerated. Georgia is the latest State to enact a compulsory school attendance law. Such an act was passed by the Georgia legislature and approved by Governor Harris August 19, 1916.

The main features of this law are thus reviewed in an editorial in the Atlanta Journal:

"Judged by its positive virtues rather than by negative limitations, the compulsory school attendance measure passed at the recent session of the legislature is a praiseworthy and serviceable law. Its terms are not as far-reaching and stringent as those prescribed in parts of New England and the West—and wisely so, for if reforms of this character are to be permanent they must be temperate and gradual. * * *

"The measure provides in substance that children between the ages of eight and fourteen shall attend school for not less than four months a year. Exceptions to this requirement apply to those children who have completed the fourth grade of the grammar (elementary) school, those whose parents or guardians are in destitution, those whose services are needed in farm emergencies, and those who are mentally or physically incapable. Violators of the law are subject to adequate penalties."

The deplorable results of want of a compulsory school attendance law in Georgia are strikingly evident in the large number of pupils who quit school between the second and the seventh grades in the white schools. There were 58,246 pupils who entered the second grade for the year ending December 31, 1915; only 26,578 entered the seventh grade for that year, which shows that 31,670 pupils quit school between these two grades; in other words, Georgia is not giving over half her white pupils a seventh-grade education.

The public school course of Georgia covers eleven years, with the exception of a few of its progressive cities which have recently added the twelfth grade. According to the Annual School Report for the white schools of Georgia for the year ending December 31, 1915, there were 2,045 pupils who entered the eleventh grade; this shows that only one pupil in every 28 of those who entered the second grade entered the eleventh grade.

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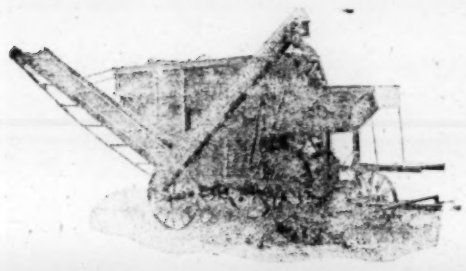

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In Illinois, with a State-wide compulsory attendance law, for the school year ending June 30, 1915, there were 127,629 enrolled in the scond grade and 103,347 pupils enrolled in the seventh grade; which shows that Illinois is giving over 80 per cent of her children a seventh-grade education. For this same year in Illinois there were 15,812 pupils enrolled in the eleventh grade, which shows that one in every seven pupils enrolled in the second grade enters the eleventh grade. (The comparison is for the same years in both States. The public school course in Illinois covers 12 years.) It is expected, however, that Georgia will make signal progress in her public school attendance under her new compulsory attendance law, and that within the next decade public sentiment in that State will demand a still better law. The Atlanta Journal, in the editorial already quoted, pays tribute to the agencies that have worked for many years in order to make it possible for Georgia to take this first step toward better school attendance, as follows:

"Many persons and many agencies have worked faithfully, through years of difficulty and disappointment, for this beneficent legislation. The Georgia Teachers' Association, the forces of organized labor, notably the Journal of Labor published in Atlanta, Women's Clubs, progressive Trade bodies, notably the Atlanta Chamber of Commerce, and constructive newspapers — these and divers others have given the cause of compulsory school attendance unstinted support. Particularly earnest and effective, however, has been the service of the State Superintendent of Education, Professor M. L. Brittain, who has labored with a zeal that comes from heart-deep conviction and with an insight which experience alone can supply."

It is clearly evident that there is plenty of room for improvement in the public school attendance of both Illinois and Georgia. An aroused public sentiment in behalf of a better school attendance will do more for its improvement than all the laws that can ever be written upon the statute books. The public press is the agency through which to arouse public sentiment until it will no longer tolerate the present poor attendance at our public schools throughout the nation.

A PIG A PART OF A SCHOOL'S EQUIPMENT

ENTERPRISING TEACHER WINS PORKER, CHILDREN BUILD PEN, AND HE BECOMES PART OF THE "FAMILY"

How a teacher of 60 pupils in a one-room schoolhouse, located in the forest of North Carolina, succeeded in getting her pupils interested in practical agriculture with a pig and less than one acre of uncultivated land, is told in a report of one of the field workers of the department.

A farm paper offered a pure-bred pig as a prize for securing a certain number of subscriptions. This energetic school teacher set out among the parents of her pupil and succeded in selling enough subscriptions to win the pig. When the pig arrived the pen was already built by the school children on the school grounds for its reception. The parents were invited, and talks on pig raising were made. The rest of the day was spent in driving around to some of the best pig farms in the county, where various kinds of live stock were scored and discussed.

The pupils learned that a pig could not thrive entirely on scraps from lunches and occasional ears of corn. An interested member of the school committee offered the use of his team and implements, and the pupils started to work clearing the forest land to use as a forage pasture. They then planted crops of rye, wheat, rape and grass to afford the pig grazing plots of green forage. A cold frame was also put in, and cabbage plants were grown for sale, the money thus realized being turned over to buy whatever additional feed was needed to keep the pig.

As a result of the interest aroused, taxpayers and members of the school board have given their support to the establishment of a small demonstration farm. More land is to be purchased, and the county agent is to visit the school each week. Since the pig was brought into the the school, less than a year ago, the membership of the county pig club has more than trebled.

PICKENS COUNTY FAIR A SUCCESS

BY MISS MARY SANIFER, Jeanes Fund Supervisor and Assistant Manager of the Fair

The Negro Department of the Pickens County Fair was unusually good. It was well represented with crochet and embroidery, fancy quilts, plain sewing, shuck and oat straw hats and baskets of various designs. The Agricultural and Livestock Departments were fine and the Canning Booth was a decided success. Fruits and vegetables were exhibited in large numbers and a great number of first prizes were won. The work of this fair will be an inspiration to the county in that it will teach our peole how to live at home.

Dr. Jackson of Birmingham, Alabama, Miss E. L. Gulley, Principal of Pickens County Training School and Professor Jas. Howard, were the speakers.

THE FAMILY COW

BY PERCY WERNER, JR., Missouri College of Agriculture

The family cow should be a constant source of cheap, pure and delicious milk. Such may be the case, if a few precautions are taken. It is frequently observed, however that under the conditions surrounding the family cow only dirty, diseased milk can be produced.

A cow may be suffering from tuberculosis, the worst disease to which she is subject, and still show no signs of it to the proud owner. For the sake of the children who drink the milk, a qualified Veterinarian should be called upon to inspect and test each cow every year.

With the assurance of a healthy cow, she should be housed in a clean, well lighted shed and provided with a clean yard in which to exercise. The milk should be drawn into a clean, small-topped milk pail and kept cool until consumed.

Milk sours and spoils because of the bacteria which enter it with dirt from the cow and from pails not thoroughly washed. Keeping these bacteria out of the milk and preventing their growth by keeping the milk cool, are easy and efficient means of procuring the best of milk from the family cow provided she is free from disease.

FOODS FOR CHILDREN

By R. D. Hetzel, Director Domestic Science, Oregon Agricultural College

A useful body and an alert mind are largely the factors of the problem of proper feeding. The mother who wants to make the best citizen out of her child should feed it properly. In order to do this she should know what kind of food to feed, how much to feed, and how often to feed. Children need more food in proportion to their size than adults, and it is therefore wise to give more than three meals a day; on the other hand, food must not be given so often that the stomach will have no time to rest. This can be avoided if children are fed at the same hour every day. The digestive organs of children are not strong enough to care for the hearty foods of adults; therefore, their food should not be too strong.

It is important that children be taught the chewing habit. For this purpose crusts of bread and crisp crackers are introduced when the child has several teeth, cereals, preferably from whole grains, should be a part of every day's food.

Long cooking (three or four hours) is necessary for cereals. They should be served with top milk and no sugar. The drinking of a liberal amount of water is necessary to the health of the child. Several glasses a day should be taken, preferably between meals, for if water is taken during meals, the food is washed down before being sufficiently chewed. Candy, always the purest, or loaf sugar, may be fed sparingly at meals, but never between meals, for that spoils the natural appetite.

Soft-cooked (never fried) eggs should always be a part of the child's diet. Serving eggs in custards or in soups gives variety. One egg a day is sufficient for a child. Since fruits and fresh vegetables are rich in minerals, so important in bone and muscle-building, they should be fed to children. For the younger children, begin with the mild-flavored vegetables, well cooked and rubbed through a sieve. Orange juice and prune pulp are most desirable fruits. Any mild fresh fruit in perfect condition may be used for the older children. The sweet fruits should be cooked and served without sugar.

Provide plenty of bread and butter. The milk and eggs given to younger children take the place of meat. After the age of eight years children may be fed meat with little fat, such as broiled beef steak, stewed chicken, baked haddock, halibut or cod, roast beef or mutton.

The following foods should be avoided with children until the tenth year: ham, bacon, sausage, pork, fried food of any kind, hot bread, fresh rolls, pastry, all rich cakes, syrup, preserves, nuts, tea, coffee, lemonade, soda water, raw vegetables such as cucumbers, onions, radishes, celery, and the following cooked vegetables: corn, cabbage, and lima beans.

We must remember that learning to eat the right kind of food is one of the most important parts of a child's education. The giving of this education rests upon the parents, who must therefore train the child to accept the fact that his food is different in kind from that of adults. And that though he eats at the family table, he cannot taste everything that is offered as food for the family. All bad food habits are due to the lack of knowledge or indulgence of the parents and not to the inherited taste of the child.

GIVING THE FARM A NAME

By F. H. CARDOZO, Director of Agriculture, Florida State College, Tallahassee, Florida

I wish every Negro farmer could read the October issue of the Ladies' Home Journal, but since that is not likely to be the case, I will quote the following small paragraph, "Naming the Farm."

The American farmer and his wife are coming to appreciate the importance of naming the farm. Indiana has recognized the value of farm names to the extent of providing a law for their registration, and the State authorities have had published a booklet on naming the farm, which includes a copy of the law and more than eight hundred suggestions for names. You may find one in this list that would suit your farm. The booklet is free to residents of Indiana, and available for nonresidents at five cents a copy. Request for it may be made as follows: Ladies' Home Journal, Washington Bureau, Woodard Bldg., Washington, D. C. Enclose also one two-cent stamp."

It is the hardest thing in the world to try to argue or plead with a prosperous farmer, average variety, that he should give his whole farm place a name, just as he does his horse or cow.

You can hear frequently such talk as "over there on the old Smith place," or, "the Lake Jackson place is now sold," etc., and even the poor sort of naming the particular farm or plantation in question, is due to their long connection with it as a laborer, perhaps, or because the white owner compelled the name to be used.

I have yet to see more than two Negro farmers, who had the wisdom, practical foresight in a business way, and the aesthetic sense to give his home farm a beautiful, suggestive name. But I have seen a comparatively large number of prosperous white farmers who have adorned their rural homes with a most appropriate name or title.

I hope the educated farmers at "Baldwin Farms" near Tuskegee, will take the lead in this matter and show their pride and self-respect, by having painted on a neat sign board, not too large, nor too small, hanging on the front fence somewhere, some such pretty and thoughtful name, as, Greenfield, Cloverdale, Hillview, Berkshire Heights, Breezy Ranch, Woodland Farm, Sunshine Farm, Evergreen, Clearview, Leighorn Ranch, Big Springs, Pleasant Grove, Fairmount, Seven Oaks, Sunny Slope, Poorland Farm, Forest Home, Pine Ridge, Riverside, East View, Bee Hive Farm, Shadysides, Fairview, Green Hill, Jersey Land, Pecan Place, Valley Home Farm, Rocky Point, Bungalow Farm, Greekside, Cedar Lane, Coolfont, High-Wood, Roselands, Sunset Farm, Lone Tree, Plainfield, etc., etc.

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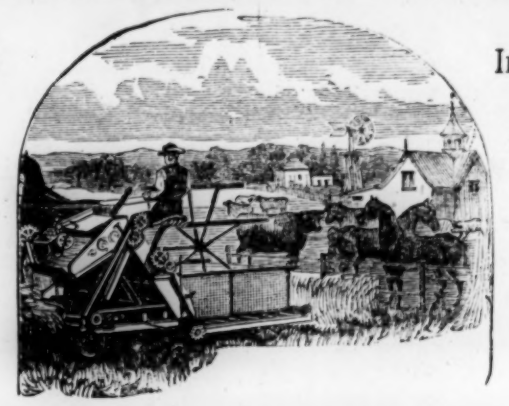

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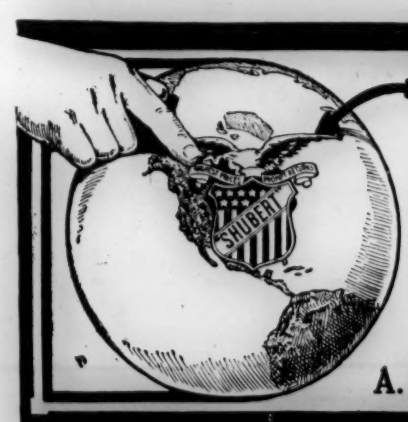

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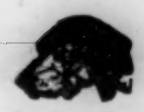

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